THE

Caledonian Mercury.

No. 9318. EDINBURGH, WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 1781.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, EDINBURGH,
MAY 23. 1781.

NOTICE is hereby given, That a MAIL for SHETLAND will be made up at this Office, upon *the first Wednesday of June next*, at nine at night; and that the Packet boat will sail on the Thursday morning following, wind and weather serving.

By order of the Postmaster General,
DAVID ROSS, Sec.

A CLERK WANTED

FOR the Paper Warehouse, foot of Old Fish-market, Close.—Apply to Charles Cowan merchant in Leith.

THOMAS POTTS, Grocer,

RETURNS his best thanks to the Public in general, and his Friends in particular, for their past favours, and begs leave to acquaint them, that he is now moved from the Candlemaker Row, to the first Shop leading into Brown's Square, wherein he hopes for the continuance of their favours, which he shall always make it his utmost study to merit, by being constantly supplied with goods of the best quality, and upon as reasonable terms as the markets will admit of.

N. B. He has just now got to hand a parcel of very fine CUMBERLAND HAMS.

SLATER WORK.

ALEXANDER ADAM, Slater in Edinburgh, returns his most sincere and grateful thanks to the Noblemen and Gentlemen in Scotland who have been pleased to employ him with their business for these twenty years past; and begs the continuance of the same.—He keeps the best materials at his slate yard, West Bow, Edinburgh.

HOUSE OF PEERS, *Friday, May* 18.

As soon as prayers were over this day in the House of Lords, Sir Francis Molyneux, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, was sent to the House of Commons to desire the attendance of the Honourable House upon a commission for passing sundry public and private bills, and the Speaker, attended by the House, being accordingly come to their Lordships Bar, the said bills were read, and received the royal assent.

The House of Commons having retired, Lord Chief Baron *Skinner* rose, and acquainted their Lordships, that, in consequence of the reference that had been made upon the cases of the Earl of Percy, and the Duchess of Athol, to the twelve Judges, they had met accordingly to deliberate thereon; and having come to an opinion upon the same, they had directed him to signify it accordingly. The Lord Chief Baron then entered into the matter in an exceedingly clear, explicit, and conclusive manner, representing the cases of the Earl of Percy, and the Duchess of Athol, to stand exactly upon one and the same ground. What he should, therefore, say upon the case of the one, would equally apply to the other. Their Lordships had examined carefully into the Statute of Limitations of Henry the Eighth, which went to declare, that no claim could be made to the office of Lord Great Chamberlain, unless the claim should be made within the term of sixty years. Notwithstanding this, the Judges were of opinion, that the Statute of Limitations did not operate against a claimant, when it should appear, as in the present instance, that there had been no issue in the family within the term of sixty years to hold the said office. As to the Lord Great Chamberlainship being an office, that, his Lordship said, was notorious, and therefore unnecessary to be argued. There was no doubt, the Lord Chief Baron said, that the ancestors of the family of Earl Percy had been in fasine of the office; but as there had been no issue capable of claiming it, the present family were at full liberty to sue for it within the Statute of Limitations. The Lord Chief Baron, however, observed, that as the family had suffered the said office to have been in adverse possession for more than sixty years, it was the unanimous opinion of the twelve Judges, that the claim of Earl Percy to the Lord Great Chamberlain, was neither good nor valid. With regard to the Duchess of Athol, the Lord Chief Baron remarked, that what had been determined with regard to Earl Percy, was a full and complete answer to that; and, therefore, in speaking of the one, their Lordships were to consider it as determining the other.

The *Lord Chancellor* then moved, "That Counsel should "proceed on the case of the Duke of Ancaster," which being agreed to, Mr Mansfield began to plead thereon, when Lord Mansfield observed, that as the right of the office now rested between the noble Duke and Lady Eresby, there was no occasion for the House to hear the pedigree of either argued at the bar; and their Lordships immediately adjourned till Monday next.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, *Thursday, May* 17.

A Committee of the whole House being formed to take into consideration the bill relative to smuggling, a clause was proposed by Sir Thomas Clavering to amend the bill. After much debate the House divided, and it was lost by a majority of twenty-nine,

The ayes being	—	58
The noes,	—	87

The Committee then went through the remaining clauses, which met with no opposition. The Chairman then left the Chair, and the House being resumed, the order of the day was read, for reading a second time the bill for preventing desertion from the Royal Navy.

Mr *Minchin* was the first who opposed it: The bill, he said, heaped hardships upon the most valuable set of men in the empire; and it was difficult to determine, whether the bill was more exceptionable in its principles or its provisions; to him they appeared repugnant to liberty and sound policy, as they attempted to retain, by punishments, those who ought to be gained by rewards, and allured by gentle usage. He then went through the different clauses, and stated his objections to each as he went along. He concluded with a motion, that the bill should be read a second time on this day four months.

Admiral *Keppel* also found fault with the bill; and was of opinion, that if it passed, the House would be obliged to pass another for manning the merchant ships; for the present bill would not leave them the means of getting hands to navigate their ships. There was something radically wrong in the management of the navy, or we should not hear of such desertions as of late had thinned the service: In the last war, there were little known. There was a practice, to which he ascribed, in a great measure, those desertions; he meant the splitting of ships companies; and separating those, who wished to serve together under some particular officer, to whom they were personally attached: Serving under the officer they liked, they never thought of desertion; but being sent to serve with men they never saw before, and under an officer they did not know, they fled from a service they disliked, and thus the ships were thinned. He knew an instance of a ship's company that was dispersed up and down among other ships, while not above 2 or 300 were suffered to remain on board their own ship: It was well known how disagreeable this measure would be to the men, and therefore the place of their destination was kept a secret from them. The ship he alluded to was the Victory, which he had had the honour to command. He was sorry that he had not been able to attend while the Greenwich Hospital bill was going through the House, or he would have taken care to speak in favour of the common men, when those whose business it was to protect them had sacrificed their interests: By that bill, every common man's share of prize money, which should not have been claimed for three years, was given to the hospital. He was sorry the term had not been enlarged to six years. He knew of two instances in the last war, where the captors had not been able to return to England for four years after they had made the prizes; in one case they were entitled to 35 l. a man, the whole sum amounting to 80000 l. and yet they were never able to get a shilling of their money, because the application had not been made within the three years specified in the act of Parliament: It therefore was not surprising that men should be ready to desert, when they found so little encouragement to do their duty. He just touched upon the late loss of the Eustatia fleet; he said he would not dwell upon it; he would only cry Shame! Shame! upon those who had suffered a paltry squadron of six sail of the line to insult our coast with impunity.

Mr *Webb* attributed the spirit of desertion to the severity with which the seamen were treated in the King's ships, and, consequently, he must disapprove of a bill, which, by enacting greater severities, must encrease that spirit. He verified his opinion by what happened on board the London East Indiaman, that had been run down in a gale of wind by the Russel man of war. When the Russel's boats were employed in picking up the men who had thrown themselves into the sea, the Captain, as he was quitting the London, saw thirty-five of his men remain behind; he called to them to save themselves by quitting the ship before she should go down; they replied that they would not, because they were deserters from the royal navy, and must, if they should return, be either hanged or flogged from ship to ship; and sooner than bear this, they had rather, they said, go down with the London. The Captain expostulated with them, but in vain; the ship went down, and with her perished thirty-five as good seamen as any in the British navy; who preferred death to the rigorous punishments inflicted in the King's ships. He knew what he was saying was truth, for he had it from the Captain, whose entreaties had not been able to prevail on those men to save themselves. In former times, he said, we were not at such a loss for seamen as at present; we had Swedes, Danes, and Russian: to navigate our merchantmen, but now they are kept at home by order of their Courts. We had America also to supply us with seamen; now they supply our enemies; nay our own men, driven from the service by the severities annexed to it, are absolutely in arms against us. He was informed, by a Captain of an English East Indiaman, who was prisoner on board a French 74 gun ship, in the action of the 27th of July, that in the same ship were 40 British seamen. These were the men who went aloft, and worked the ship; these were the men who commanded the guns, and fought best—against their country. That same officer had assured him, that while he was a prisoner on shore, where he was confined and used very ill, there were 500 British seamen confined with them. These were tempted by the French with advantageous offers, if they would enter on board the French ships of war, or the American privateers that were fitting out in the ports of France. The offers so far prevailed, that some days 15, some days 20, used to embrace them; and it had brought tears in his eyes to see that of 500 fellows, prisoners, 300 had taken up arms against their country.

The present bill, if passed, would ruin our trade; and if it should be read a second time, they should have petitions from all the great trading towns in England against it. The Directors of the East India Company had already sent for him to advise with him about it; and had agreed that a deputation should be sent to Lords North and Sandwich, to request that they would discountenance the bill; because if it should pass, they could not be able to carry on their trade. He himself, as a person who helped to supply the Company with ships, found it at present a very difficult matter to get men; ships, rigging, stores, &c. he could get; but if the bill should pass, it would be out of his power to get men. Even now, it cost the owners of the Company's ships 1000 l. extraordinary to the crew of each ship; and to encrease their hardships, and those of the Company, one of those ships returning home with a cargo worth between 300,000 l. and 400,000 l. from which the public revenue was to derive considerable advantage, and which consequently well deserved protection, if met by a King's ship, had 30 or 40 of her seamen pressed, and had not a sufficient number left behind to guard from the common dangers of the sea, much less to defend her against the attacks of the most insignificant privateer. Upon the whole, he would oppose the bill, as oppressive to the seamen, and injurious to trade.

Mr *Gascoyne junior* disapproved, as much as the Honourable Member, the practice of taking from merchantmen those hands that were necessary to navigate them. He had always concurred in giving protections to the trade. He had always, and ever would, set his face against those who should wantonly distress it; but he saw no force in the argument the Honourable Gentleman drew against the bill, from the dislike the trading towns had to it. If it had any force at all, it was certainly for, not against the bill; for it demonstrated that the merchants manned their ships with deserters from the royal navy; and if the bill should pass, desertion being cut up by the roots, the merchants could no longer succeed in seducing the King's seamen from his service; and therefore, the more they would oppose the bill, the better opinion he would entertain of its efficacy in answering the end for which it had been drawn. Gentlemen seemed to feel very much for seamen, and opposed this bill, because they conceived it enacted additional severities against that body of men: But in this they were most egregiously mistaken; for there was not an idea of intended severity against the seamen to be found from the one end of the bill to the other. The penalties it was calculated to inflict were levelled surely against those who should entice or seduce them from the King's service, harbour or conceal them after desertion; and against these masters of ships who should employ them, knowing them to be deserters. This being the real object and purport of the bill, was there a shadow of rational objection to it? Must not every gentleman have felt the necessity of checking the practice of crimps and others, who made it a point, nay a profession, to seduce men from the navy? Was it not proper to cut off temptation from the seamen? It was difficult for them to withstand the offers made to them by merchants and others; —higher wages; easier service; no danger but of the sea to encounter; and to become their own masters at the end of five, six, or twelve months, were temptations too strong to be resisted by men who had not a nice sense of duty; and therefore it ought to be made penal in those who should make those offers; and, however necessary it was to encourage trade, it ought to be a prior consideration to man the royal navy, by which alone the trade of the country could be protected. Gentlemen had mentioned the practice of pressing; and had ascribed to it the desertions complained of. But, was it reasonable to suppose, that 42,000 men who had deserted were all pressed men? They certainly were not; and, most undoubtedly a very large proportion of them had been volunteers, and had received bounty-money; some fourteen, some fifteen, some eighteen pounds in bounty from the King, the city of London, the India Company, and subscription money. Hence it was clear, that even volunteers were not to be held by rewards, as long as the merchants were permitted to offer them greater; and few seamen, after having received fourteen pounds from the public, would resist the alluring offer of 20 l. more, with higher wages, and a service in which they should be exposed to no danger but that of the sea, which they did not value a rush.

Upon the whole, the arguments that he had heard were against the provisions, not the principle of the bill; and as there was nothing properly before the House now, but the consideration of the principle, namely, whether the bill should be read a second time or not, the arguments appeared to him premature, because they were directed against the clauses, which could not be considered till the bill should be in the Committee; and, as no one had brought the smallest argument to impeach the principle, so he trusted the House would let the bill go to a Committee, where the clauses against which the objections lay might be so framed, as to make the whole of the bill completely unobjectionable.

Mr *Dunning*, Mr *Dempster*, Mr *Rawlinson*, Mr *Martin*, and Mr *Sheridan*, spoke against the bill; which was very ably defended by the *Attorney General*.

Mr *Penton*, who brought it in, proved that Parliament had not always thought the clauses in this bill too severe; because two of them, and these the most objectionable, had been taken from two different acts of Parliament, which he proved, by having the clauses read from those acts by the clerk.

A division closed the debate, when Mr Minchin's motion for putting off the second reading of the bill for four months, was carried by a majority of eight only:

For the four months,	-	73
Against,	-	65

This adjournment of the second reading is equivalent to a rejection, as a prorogation, which puts an end to all bills that have not gone through all their stages, will take place before the expiration of half the term of four months.

Lord Mahon's gold bill was then committed, the blanks were filled up, and the House adjourned.

INTELLIGENCE FROM LLOYD'S, *May* 18.

The Neptunus, Otherdahl, from Gottenburg, is arrived at Waterford, after having thrown some iron and deals overboard on the coast of Holland.

The Emanuel, (a Swede) from Hull to Oporto, is carried into Vigo.

The Mary Ann, ——, from Bristol to Dublin, is taken off Wicklow-head.

Torbay 13. Arrived the Dragon privateer of Guernsey, with two retaken ships, part of the St Eustatia fleet, which had been captured by the French.

The Lively brig of war has brought into Plymouth the Defiance French privateer, of six three-pounders, and 43 men.

Elsinore, 1 May. Yesterday went on a cruize in the North Sea, a Danish frigate. This day passed by for Gottenburg and the Mediterranean, a Swedish frigate.

Waterford 9. Arrived the Devonshire Hero privateer, Capt. Niccol, and has brought in the Petrus Alexander, Ross, from Grenada to Amsterdam, with sugar, indigo, cotton, and coffee; she is upwards of 450 tons burthen, was taken the 30th ult. in lat. 49. 32. long. 12. 9. she is reported to have dollars on board to a considerable amount, and is said to be worth 30,000 l.

The Peace, Hogg, from Whitehaven to the West-Indies, is arrived at Cork, after being taken by the Guichen privateer, and ransomed for 2000 guineas; the privateer is since taken by the Aurora, M. W.

The Neptune, Bennet, and Amity, Richardson, from Liverpool to London, were at Scilly the 11th instant.

The packets from England, with the mails of the 4th and 8th of May, arrived at Holland the 13th.

The Grace, Phillips, from Aberavon, and the Friends, Goodwill, ——, from Carmarthen, both bound to London, are taken and carried into France.

Portsmouth 16. The following ships at Spithead have received orders to prepare for sea, and Admiral Parker is expected to take the command:

Guns.	*Captains.*	*Guns.*	*Captains.*
100 Victory	Howarth	32 Dedalus	Pringle
84 Princess Amelia	M'Cartney	32 Raleigh	Gambier
74 Sultan	Watt	32 Brune	Hartwell
70 Diligente	Hunt	32 Ranger	Wyborn
64 Magnanime	Wolley	28 Surprise	Reeves
50 Hannibal	Parry	28 Maidstone	Parker
50 Leander	Shirley	Hornet	Edwards
50 Portland	Luttrel	Lynx	Norman
40 Fortune	Christian	Alert	Vashan
36 Venus	Douglas	Fairy	Yeo

The Portland, of 50 guns, is gone out of harbour to Spithead.

Portsmouth 17. This morning Admiral Hyde Parker hoisted his flag on board the Victory. The Raleigh, of 32 guns, is come into harbour to dock. A large ship is coming up, said to be the Buffalo, from Falmouth.

From the London Papers, May 18.

LONDON.

This day the following bills received the Royal Assent by Commission, viz.

The Servants Tax Bill; Verdigrease Bill; Expiring Law Bill; Coventry Election Bill; Indemnity Bill; Paper Duty Bill; Levant Trade Bill; Bugles Import Bill; Portugal Neutral Goods Import Bill; and a great number of Road and Inclosure Bills.

This day the subscribers to the 12,000,000 for the service of the present year, made good their third payment of 10 per cent. of the said capital at the Bank.

This morning some dispatches were sent off to Plymouth, for his Majesty's ships at that port to prepare for sailing, with the West India fleet, which are to sail from Portsmouth the first fair wind.

Last night and this morning the press was so very hot, that every ship in the river was stripped of seamen, without any regard being paid to protections.

Orders are given for no more protections to be granted, until his Majesty's ships, now ready for sea, are fully manned.

The Cathedral of St Paul's is shut up, and Divine service will not be performed any more therein, until it has undergone a repair on the south side thereof.

So great is the want of shipping by the East-India Company, in consequence of Hyder Ally's incursion into the Carnatic, and the reduction of Arcot, that a bye-law, confining the Company to a particular number of vessels, was repealed on Tuesday, and leave given to the Directors to purchase some additional ships, which are to be freighted for different settlements with the greatest expedition.

Two of the men of war presented by the East-India Company to Government, are in such forwardness, that they will be ready to launch the latter end of July at farthest.

The new frigates ordered to be built this year, are upon larger construction than any yet launched. They are to be long and as wide as the 60 gun ships, and will carry all their guns on one deck.

1956

AT the Court at St James's, the 18th of May, 1781,

PRESENT,

The KING's Moſt Excellent Majeſty in Council.

HIS Majeſty having been pleaſed to appoint William Browne, Eſquire, to be Governor and commander in chief of his Majeſty's Bermuda or Somers iſlands in America, he this day, in Council took the oaths appointed to be taken by the Governors of his Majeſty's plantations.

St James's, May 16.

This day the Count de Pignatelli, Envoy Extraordinary from the King of the Two Sicilies, had his audience of leave of his Majeſty.

And afterwards the Prince de Caramanico, Envoy Extraordinary and Miniſter Plenipotentiary from his Sicilian Majeſty, had his firſt audience to deliver his Credentials.

To which they were introduced by the Right Honourable the Earl of Hillſborough, one of his Majeſty's principal Secretaries of State, and conducted by Sir Clement Cottrell Dormer, Knight, Maſter of the Ceremonies.

St James's, May 18.

THE following intelligence was this day received from Bombay, dated January 11, 1781.

That it having been reſolved to lay ſiege to Baſan, on the coaſt of Malabar, General Goddard, with the forces under his command, with great difficulty completed his march from Surat, ſo as to arrive before the place on the 13th of November, where he was joined by reinforcements and ſtores from Bombay. The General, finding it very ſtrong, and defended by a numerous garriſon, under the command of Viſagee Punt, determined to carry on his operations with regularity and precaution. On the 28th in the morniug, he had completed a battery of ſix guns and ſix mortars, within 900 yards of the place, and, under cover of the fire, carried on his approaches to the ſpot where he erected the grand battery of nine twenty-four pounders, which was opened the 9th of December in the morning, within 500 yards of the wall; beſides which, a battery of 2- mortars, of different ſizes, was opened upon one of the flanks of the Parapet. Theſe were ſerved with ſuch effect that, on the 10th in the morning, a practicable breach being nearly completed, a meſſage was ſent from the fort, offering to ſurrender; and, after ſome demur on the part of the enemy, which obliged the General to renew the fire from the batteries, the place ſurrendered the next day at diſcretion. The garriſon marched out, and laid down their arms in front of the fort, being allowed only to carry away their own private effects. It adds greatly to the ſatisfaction which this important acquiſition gives, that the loſs we ſuſtained is very ſmall, one officer only, Lieutenant Sir John James Gordon, who, having been wounded, is ſince dead, and about twelve men killed and wounded, of whom four only were Europeans. A conſiderable quantity of ammunition was found in the fort, two hundred and twenty pieces of cannon, and ten braſs mortars, of which nineteen pieces of braſs cannon, ſeveral of a very large calibre, one hundred and twenty-eight pieces of the iron ordnance, and all the mortars, have been reported ſerviceable.

War Office, May 19. 1781.

1ſt Regiment of Driſgoon Guards, Cornet Charles Crauford is appointed to be Lieutenant, vice Richard Roſe.

1ſt Regiment of Foot Guards, Enſign John Smith to be Adjutant, vice Henry Fanſhawe.

4th Regiment of Foot, Lieutenant Nathaniel Kane to be Captain of one of the Additional Companies, vice John C mond. Enſign Edward Gu ſon to be Lieutenant, vice Nathaniel Kane.

14th Regiment of Foot, Enſign —— Tickell, of the Cinque Ports Corps, to be Enſign, vice William Carpenter.

Independent Company of Foot, Lieutenant George Freer, of 77th Foot to be Captain. Enſign George Sempill, of 32d Foot, to be Lieutenant. Enſign John Moore, of 77th Foot, to be Lieutenant. John Quinn, Gent. to be Enſign.

Independent Company of Foot, Lieutenant James Fenwick, of 2d Foot, to be Captain. Enſign John Auſten, of 2d Foot, to be Lieutenant. Frederick John Perrin, Gent to be Enſign.

Commiſſions ſigned by his Majeſty for the army in Ireland.

32d Regiment of Foot, Major-General Ralph Earl of Roſs to be Colonel, vice Lieutenant-General William Amherſt, deceaſed. Dated May 17. 1781.

From the London Papers, May 19.

Vienna, April 25. The hopes of a Congreſs to be held here, dwindle away every day; and that event is thought to be ſtill at a diſtance.

Paris, May 3. We know not what courſe M. de la Motte Piquet ſteers. Never was expedition kept more ſecret; his orders were, to open his inſtructions only in a certain latitude.

Paris, May 10. An expreſs is juſt arrived from Breſt with the news, that the French ſquadron under the command of M. de la Motte-Piquet, cruizing towards the Sorlingues, has intercepted the Engliſh convoy coming from St Euſtatia under the eſcort of the Vengeance, and Prince William, and the Alcmena and Mars frigates. Commodore Hotham on deſcrying the French ſquadron made a ſignal for diſperſing. M. de la Motte-Piquet took 22 of the tranſport-ſhips, and was in purſuit of the reſt. This news was brought to Breſt by the corvette la Nereide, which was to return with four frigates to join M. de la Motte-Piquet.

Letters from Cadiz of the 20th ult. mention, that the garriſon of Gibraltar made a ſally to attack a baſtion of the beſiegers, but were repulſed and obliged to return in the greateſt confuſion.

Hague, May 10. We learn that Mr Adams, who actually reſides at Leyden, has hired a houſe at Amſterdam, which he is to occupy very ſoon.

Hague, May 15. The Directors of the India Company received yeſterday, by an expreſs from France, the agreeable news, that one of their ſhips, the Antoinetta-Conrardina, was ſafely arrived at Cadiz from Batavia, under the eſcorte of two French frigates.

LONDON.

It was this day reported in the City, that La Mothe Piquet did not go into Breſt with his ſquadron, but that ſix ſhips of the line have joined him off that harbour, ſo that he is now out again with 13 ſail of the line and ſeven frigates.

The ſquadron under Capt. Stuart, now in Leith Roads, is to be immediately augmented with two or three ſail of the line, by order of the Admiralty.

The ſailing of the Dutch fleet from the Texel has apparently put all the northern part of the kingdom into an alarm, on the idea that they will make a deſcent on ſome part of the coaſt; this idea, however, ſeems a very vague one, as the beſt accounts ſay the fleet is but ill provided, and has no land forces on board.

The Dutch know and feel that they muſt be obliged for a long time to act upon the defenſive only; as it will be ſeveral months undertake any thing offenſive.

They write from Amſterdam, that they are buſy, in every port and creek on the Zuider-Sea, in building and equipping veſſels of war; and that they are no leſs diligent at Rotterdam, Helvoetſluys, and Fluſhing, ſo that they expect to have a formidable navy at an early period.

An account from France, of the late action in America, ſays, that General Green's army poſitively conſiſted in the field of battle of 7400 effective men, and that they loſt, in killed and wounded, upwards of 400 more than was at firſt reported, amongſt whom were a great number of principal officers.

As ſoon as the news of Earl Cornwallis's victory reached Nantz, a courier was immediately diſpatched with it to Paris, which was on the 2d inſtant, and the day following Monſ. Creſpigne, and other gentlemen, raiſing a loan of 100,000 l. Sterling, for the uſe of Congreſs, ſtopped further progreſs therein for three months.

The Magnifique, of 74 guns, in dock at Breſt, lately caught fire through the ſame neglect as the Couronne did, and is damaged ſo much that ſhe muſt be rebuilt.

Yeſterday Lord North preſented to the Houſe of Commons a bill for continuing "An act of the laſt ſeſſion, enabling certain Commiſſioners to examine, ſtate, and take the public accounts of the kingdom," &c. The ſame was read a firſt time, and ordered to be read a ſecond time.

Extract of a letter received by a merchant in the city yeſterday from Paris, dated the 8th inſt.

"It is ſaid at Mr Franklin's, that General Greene died of his wounds he received in the action with Lord Cornwallis, the 4th day after the battle, at a little village called Humblefdoun, and that Morgan is alſo wounded."

A letter from Paris, by this day's French mail, has the following important article:

"*Paris, April 30.* We have received advice, that M. de la Perouſe arrived at Boſton the 3d of March, with four millions in ſpecie, which he carried over for the uſe of the Congreſs of the United States of North-America."

Extract of a letter from Portſmouth, May 18.

"Admiral Hyde Parker is come down in great haſte, and is gone on board the Victory, where his flag is now flying. The long-boats and bum-boats are crowding off to Spithead with freſh proviſions, and vegetables, for the ſquadron, which is expected to ſail to-morrow morning early, if the wind, which is at preſent calm, permits. It is not ſaid whither they are bound.

"The Minerva frigate arrived here this day from Madeira. She went out with the grand fleet, commanded by Admiral Darby, and was the ſignal frigate, till they arrived at Gibraltar, from whence ſhe was ſent to Madeira. Her paſſage was but 18 days, and ſhe brings no news."

EDINBURGH.

T. ROBERTSON begs leave moſt reſpectfully to inform the Public, that being now concerned in the publication of the CALEDONIAN MERCURY, the EDINBURGH GAZETTE will no longer be continued. If that paper, of which he was the Editor, has not been found inferior, either in point of Intelligence or Eſſays, to any ſimilar publication, it was owing, in a great meaſure, to the kind aſſiſtance of ſeveral ingenious correſpondents, to whom he takes this opportunity of returning his beſt thanks, and of entreating the continuance of their favours. The ſame aſſiduity in procuring the moſt early and authentic information will ſtill be employed, which he ſhall be happy in communicating, through the channel of the CALEDONIAN MERCURY, to the Subſcribers for the EDINBURGH GAZETTE, whoſe future patronage he humbly ſolicits, and of whoſe paſt favours he ſhall ever retain the moſt grateful ſenſe.

N. B. Subſcriptions and Eſſays for the CALEDONIAN MERCURY may now be addreſſed, to JOHN and THOMAS ROBERTSON, at their Printing-houſe, Parliament Cloſe.

Juſt as this paper was going to preſs, we were favoured with the following letter, which we hope will be a ſufficient apology for our publication this night being later than uſual.

The following letter was this afternoon received by the Lord Provoſt, expreſs from the Provoſt of Dyſart, dated May 23.

"My LORD,

"I am deſired by the Magiſtrates of this place to acquaint your Lordſhip, that this morning arrived here, Robert Gray, maſter of the Patty of Dyſart, and reports his being taken, along with the Erſkine of Alloa, David Bonnar maſter, off the Scare Rocks, on Monday the 21ſt current, about ten o'clock in the forenoon, by the Fearnought cutter privateer of Dunkirk, William Fall Commander. The maſter and crew, excepting four boys, were carried on board the privateer, and ſoon afterwards both ſhips were ſent off, ſteering a courſe for the Texel. That yeſterday morning the privateer chaced a ſloop into Dunbar bay, and exchanged a few ſhot with the fort at that place, and in the afternoon came to anchor to the weſtward of the iſland of May, where having brought to two fiſhing boats, Captains Gray and Bonnar, with their men, were ſet aſhore at Crail, about eight o'clock in the evening. The privateer mounts 18 guns, of ſix and four pounders, and one ſtern chacer, a twelve pounder, which fights three ports. I am, &c."

The Lord Provoſt, this day, received the following letter from the Mayor of Newcaſtle, incloſing one from the Maſter of the Trinity Houſe of Scarborough. Copies of both were immediately forwarded to Captain Macbride by a ſpecial meſſenger.

My LORD, *Newcaſtle, May 22, 1781.*

"I have the honour of incloſing you copies of letters which I received. I fear theſe privateers may do great miſchief on the northern coaſt. About 130 ſail of veſſels went from this port for the ſouthward, on Sunday evening and yeſterday morning, without convoy. I wiſh that we may have a good account of them. The Merchant armed ſhip arrived at Shields yeſterday evening, after convoying about 50 ſail, which ſhe ſaw ſafe to the Sound. As the wind is at preſent N. E. I fear, that it will not permit her to proceed to the northward, in queſt of the privateer.

"Your Lordſhip will pleaſe to communicate the incloſed, to Captain Macbride, or the Commodore at Leith.

I have the honour to be, &c.

JOHN E. BLACKET, Mayor."

"John Wood of Runſwick, fiſherman, this day made oath, that he ſaw a lugger fire at, take and board, a ſloop this morning, at about nine o'clock, three miles N. E. of Scarborough Caſtle, but knows no particulars as to the captured or capturer. And that yeſterday, being eight or nine leagues diſtant from Whitby, he ſaw a large cutter, with yellow ſides, white bottom; ſeemed to mount about 18 guns, full of men, moſtly with red and white capes on, the commander of which (as is ſuppoſed) enquired of Wood whither he had any fiſh, and how far they were from the land; from all which Wood inclined to think ſhe was a French privateer. I thought proper to ſend you this information, preſuming the lugger is now off and on to the ſouthward of this port. And am, your humble ſervant,

(Signed) WYVEL TODD, maſter of the Trinity Houſe."

Gentlemen of the Coaſt Committee in Whitby.

Copy of a letter from the Mayor of Berwick, to the Lord Provoſt, received by yeſterday's poſt.

MY LORD, *Berwick, May 21. 1781.*

"Two veſſels failed out of this port yeſterday, for Leith, and were put into Eyemouth, by a cutter privateer, which, this morning, was cloſe in with this harbour; and, on her ſeeing two veſſels coming out of the ſea, bore away for them, and, to all appearance, captured them, as they all three proceeded into the offing together. We ſuppoſe this veſſel to be the ſame that engaged a Carron veſſel off Holy Iſland, on Thurſday laſt.

"P. S. As the veſſels ſtood to the ſouth, we directly ſent an expreſs to Newcaſtle, with the above account."

Extract of a letter from Eyemouth, May 21.

"You will likely have been informed of a cutter privateer, of conſiderable force, having been cruizing off this harbour all yeſterday.

"To-day ſhe was ſeen off Holy Iſland, in poſſeſſion of two veſſels, one of which was plainly diſcovered to be a brig; but the people on ſhore could not be ſo certain of the other. She has carried them out to ſea, and are now out of ſight from the higheſt land here.—This veſſel is ſuppoſed to be the ſame that had an engagement with a Carron brig about the middle of laſt week, and unleſs ſome veſſel of force is ſent to this coaſt, there is no ſaying what damage ſhe may do.

"*P. S.* Our fiſhermen gave notice to two ſloops, loaded at Berwick, in their way to the Frith, yeſterday, who have taken ſhelter here."

Extract of a letter from Eyemouth, May 22.

"The ſame privateer, mentioned in my laſt, appeared off our harbour this morning about ſeven o'clock, with a croud of ſail, in chace of a ſmack from the northward; but ſome ſhipmaſters and others, diſplayed a flag from our *Forth*, which the ſmack obſerving, was the means of ſaving her, as ſhe immediately ſet all the ſail ſhe could for this port. The privateer obſerving this, gave up the chace, and went in purſuit of a ſloop, ſteering for the Frith, which we fear ſhe has taken, as ſeveral guns have been heard from the other ſide of St Abb's Head. The ſmack, ſeeing the privateer give up, proceeded on her voyage, and is now without her reach. The ſhipmaſters preſently in this harbour, as well as our fiſhermen, are of opinion, that a broad pendant, to be hung on a high flag-ſtaff on the appearance of an enemy, would be an excellent ſignal from this place for all coaſting veſſels. This, it is thought, would be worthy the attention of the Inſurance offices. The expence could not be very great, unleſs they are inclined to treat us with four guns, two on each ſide of our harbour, which would effectually prevent any privateer from cutting out veſſels that take ſhelter in our bay."

Extract of a letter from Dunbar, dated Tueſday Evening.

"At nine o'clock this morning we were greatly alarmed with the appearance of a French cutter privateer off here, in chace of a ſmack, and the Thiſtle privateer, both belonging to this place. Theſe two veſſels came to anchor cloſe by the harbour, for ſhelter; and the Frenchman, crowding all the ſail poſſible, bore right in upon them. We made the beſt appearance we could for the defence of the town and ſhipping. The guns we had were inſtantly loaded, and a party of the Town Volunteers were drawn up along the pier. Our Thiſtle privateer alſo lay ready to give Monſieur a proper reception. We did not remain long inactive; for the Frenchman gave us a broadſide, which we returned; and a firing then commenced which continued for an hour and a half, when the privateer thought proper to ſheer off. Little damage was done; but the privateer is ſtill in the offing. A great many of the balls fell in the ſtreets: I have ſeen one of them which weighed 10½ lib. Engliſh."

The Provoſt of Dunbar, in conſequence of the alarm given to the town and neighbourhood by the privateer mentioned above, ſent a letter to Captain Macbride, giving him information thereof, and begging aſſiſtance. The Provoſt propoſed to employ the Thiſtle privateer, belonging to that place, and juſt returned from an unſucceſsful cruize, in entangling the cutter to keep her in play. When any ſhip appears coming down, the Provoſt informs the Captain the privateer will be in readineſs to act; but that ſhe is too weak to be of any ſervice by herſelf.

To this letter, we are informed, Captain Macbride made anſwer, in ſubſtance, That the ſhips in the roads were appropriated for the care of a numerous convoy, and could not be diverted from it. But that he thought the neighbourhood of Dunbar might do worſe than enter volunteers aboard the privateer, when the might try her hand with the cutter.

We are informed, that part of the crew of the above cutter have ſince landed on the Iſle of May, and carried off a number of ſheep.

Laſt night, the military in the caſtle were ordered to hold themſelves in readineſs to march, in caſe any landing ſhould be attempted. A party of Dragoons alſo ſet off from Muſſelburgh for Dunbar.

We are informed, that a camp will ſoon be formed at Dunbar, to conſiſt of 1000 foot.

We were this day favoured with the following authentic and accurate account of the Britiſh Navy at this time, in commiſſion, building, or repairing:

In Commiſſion, Three ſhips of 100 guns; twelve of 90; eighty-eight from 64 to 80; ſix of 60; fifteen of 50; one hundred and eight frigates; twelve ſhips of 20 guns; ſeventy-five ſloops; twenty-ſix armed ſhips; twenty-five cutters; ſix bombs; and twelve fire-ſhips.

Repairing, Two of 90 guns; five of 70; and four of 30.

Building, One of 100 guns; five of 90; thirteen of 74; twelve of 64; ſix of 50; eighteen frigates; and eight ſloops.

Recapitulation. In commiſſion, 109 ſhips of the line;

mech of 50 guns; 108 frigates; twelve of 20 guns; seventy-five sloops; twenty-six armed ships; twenty-five cutters; six bombs; and twelve fire-ships. Total 388 veſſels, now abſolutely in ſervice.

Mr George Henderſon merchant, died here on Sunday laſt.

On Friday laſt, the 18th curt. died at Inverneſs, Lady Amelia Halkett, widow of Sir Peter Halkett of Pitfirran.

On the 18th inſt. died at Aberdeen, in the 64th year of his age, the Right Rev. Mr George Innes, a dignified clergyman of the Epiſcopal Church of Scotland.

Thurſday laſt, died Mr Alexander Thomſon, bookſeller in Aberdeen.

On Friday, Mrs Lamb, wife of Mr Lamb, dropped down on the ſtreet of Aberdeen, as ſhe was coming from market; ſhe was carried home, but ſurvived only a few hours.

Same evening, Mr George Allan, baker there, dropped down dead while ſitting at ſupper with his family.

To-morrow, the General Aſſembly of the church of Scotland ſits down here.

Monday night, a fire broke out in the ſtill-houſe at St Clement's Wells, near Inverneſs, which did a good deal of damage; but happily the adjoining buildings were ſaved, by the activity and exertions of the ſervants, who had a plentiful ſupply of water at hand.

The GRAMMAR SCHOOL of DALKEITH will be opened on Tueſday the 5th of June next, at ten o'clock, by ALEXANDER CHRISTISON, lately choſen Rector of that School. Boarders will be received as ſoon as the houſe ſhall be properly fitted up.

Extract of a letter from Dublin, May 12.

"We are ſorry to have it to acquaint the Public, that certain advice was received here yeſterday, that, on Tueſday morning, the Mary Ann, a Briſtol trader, Captain Smyth, thence bound to this port, was captured off Wicklow-head by a French lugger privateer from Dunkirk, mounting 20 ſix-pounders, and 150 men, commanded by one Kelly an Iriſhman. Captain Smyth, we underſtand, offered one thouſand guineas to ranſom his veſſel, but no leſs than three thouſand would be taken. Shortly after the capture of the Mary Ann, the privateer took the Tyrone yacht, bound from Milford to Waterford, and ranſomed her for four hundred pounds. Captain Smyth arrived in her at Waterford from whence this account has come."

Extract of a letter from London, May 19.

"So long ago as the month of March, advices were ſent over land to his Majeſty's Conſuls in the Mediterranean, that a fleet would be in the Mediterranean the beginning of April; and that all ſhips wanting convoy to England might rendezvous at the iſland of Minorca for that purpoſe.

"It is the general opinion of the beſt informed perſons in the city, and was confidently reported yeſterday, upon 'Change, that the French Admiral is returned to Breſt with his prizes, and to procure a reinforcement.

"If Admiral Darby has detached any very conſiderable part of his ſquadron to the Weſt Indies, and ten ſail of the line are talked of, he will then have no more than ſeventeen. La Motthe Picquet had ſeven, and Guichen was coming out with nine or ten ſail more, three of which are firſt rates; ſo that it is difficult to ſay whether our grand fleet will yet be able to get home without a battle.

"Admiral Darby's private letters received at the Admiralty mention, that he ſhould have completed every object of his voyage by the 30th of April, and ſhould then return to England.

"The Narciſſus, a new ſhip of twenty guns, was launched on Saturday, at Plymouth dock, and is ordered to be immediately fitted for ſea.

"A large privateer called the Naſſau, out from Flufhing, has taken and ranſomed a veſſel from Aberdeen. She is a cutter-rigged veſſel, and mounts 20 guns, beſides ſwivels.

"They write from Penzance, that there are no fewer than fourteen prizes now on ſale at that port, all of which are Dutchmen.

"New London, where a part of the French fleet are ſaid to have arrived on or about the 31ſt of March, after the engagement with Arbuthnot, is in Rhode Iſland colony, on the weſt ſide of a river called the Thames.

"A few days ſince, ſome perſons intereſted in the arrival of the fleet from Euſtatia, having neglected to inſure their property, offered, as ſoon as they heard of Monſ. Picquet being ſailed from Breſt, to inſure, at twenty guineas per cent.; but the under-writers, one and all, refuſed it.

"No private paſſengers are to go out on board either of the Eaſt India Company's ſhips that compoſe the next fleet, the cabbins being reſerved for the military officers who are going oven with the troops.

"It is peculiarly unlucky, that the new arrangement of the camps, the enſuing ſummer, on account of the war with the Dutch, is on ſome of the moſt unhealthy ſituations, where the troops may be laid up with agues and fevers.

"The medium price of teas at the Eaſt India ſales, which commenced on Wedneſday, is 7 s. per lib. Green. The ſale of Hyſon and Black Teas is not yet commenced.

A correſpondent in London having furniſhed us with a much fuller account of the debate in the Houſe of Commons on the Iſle of Man bill, than any which has hitherto appeared in the London papers, we embrace the earlieſt opportunity in laying it before our readers.

The Houſe, according to the order of the day, went into a Committee on the Iſle of Man bill, Sir Gilbert Elliot in the Chair.

The ſeveral articles in the bill being read over, were all of them agreed to unanimouſly, except that which related to the herring cuſtom, and which was the moſt material. This gave riſe to a debate, much more intereſting than debates on private bills commonly are.

Mr *Dempſter* ſaid, that the bargain which had been made between Government and the Duke of Athol, had not been voluntary on the part of his Grace. He had agreed to it with reluctance; nor was it any wonder if he did not willingly part with ſo honourable and ſo great a poſſeſſion. He was aſhamed to confeſs, that he was old enough to have been in Parliament when the Duke had been compelled to give up his ſovereignty over the Iſle of Man, and was well acquainted with that matter. It was the object of the law, annexing the ſovereignty of the Iſle of Man to the Britiſh crown, to prevent ſmuggling. That object they ought carefully to keep in their eye, while they explained the law in queſtion. The ſovereignty of the iſle alone was transferred to the Crown.

All the rights of a Lord of the Manor were reſerved to the family of Athol. That the herring cuſtom was a manerial right of the Athol family, Mr Dempſter proved in this manner: A cuſtom of ten millings for every boat of the Iſle, and of twenty ſhillings every foreign veſſel, had been ever conſidered by the Duke's family as a part of their land revenue, and under this head it was marked in their rental. At firſt, the fiſherman paid this tribute in kind. By and by it was commuted for money; and was ſtill conſidered as part of the revenue of the territory of the Iſle of Man, although it paſſed under the name of cuſtom. For that word cuſtom, was a word, which, in the phraſeology of that place, ſignified all the different articles that compoſed the rental; ſuch as lambs, geeſe, turkies, &c. This he was ready to prove by evidence.

As a farther proof that the herring cuſtom was to be conſidered as a manerial right, Mr Dempſter took notice that no tribute or cuſtom had ever been taken from the fiſhing boats, or other veſſels, when they were at ſea, but only when they landed on the iſland. He ſaid that the bill, diveſting the Athol family of the Iſle of Man, had paſſed precipitately. It had been twice read in one day, and was carried through the Houſe with a hurry, which was rather indecent. At the ſame time, it was underſtood, that if any difficulties ſhould ariſe in the explanation or execution of the law, they ſhould be obviated upon liberal principles. The intention of the bill, which was to prevent ſmuggling, being ſuppoſed, in ſuch a caſe, to be the guide of their conduct, and what ſhould determine the Houſe in their deliberations.

It was due from the juſtice, and would be worthy of the generoſity and munificence of the Houſe, to return to an ancient and noble family what public neceſſity had inadvertently wreſted from them. The exigencies of ſtate, in certain conjunctures, and on particular occaſions, may make it neceſſary to deal hard and ſevere meaſure to individuals; but as ſoon as the public good will allow, ſtates ought to revert to the tracts of juſtice, and of humanity, and compaſſion. The legiſlature of this country had, of late, not with more humanity than ſound policy, reſtored ſome of the forfeited eſtates in Scotland to their right owners, and more inſtances of ſo wiſe and generous a policy, he hoped, would ſoon follow.

Sir *Richard Sutton* contended, that the whole of the Duke of Athol's rights to the Iſle of Man had been transferred to Government by a formal conveyance, with ſuch reſervations only as were mentioned in that conveyance; but that among thoſe reſervations the herring cuſtom was not to be found: On the contrary, in a ſchedule which contained a liſt of the Duke of Athol's property in the Iſle of Man, the herring cuſtoms were mentioned; and all that was contained in that ſchedule went to the Crown, with the exception only of certain ſpecified articles, of which this was none. He was of opinion, that it could not by any means be ſuppoſed to be comprifed under the head of Piſcaries or Fiſheries, which were expreſsly reſerved to the Duke; for theſe meant inland fiſheries, as he conceived, of ſuch fiſheries as were carried on directly on the coaſt, where one end of the net was fixed on the ſhore.

The *Attorney General* wiſhed to know the preciſe ſtate of the queſtion before the Houſe. It was not, he preſumed, the Duke of Athol's meaning, that according to the letter of the law, he had any right to the herring cuſtoms; for in that caſe, an application from his Grace for an amendment of the law, would be ſuperfluous and even abſurd. But the meaning of the bill before the Houſe was, that it was the intention of the legiſlature to grant ſomething which, through precipitation, had not been granted; and therefore that this neglect ſhould in equity now be remedied.

Lord *Frederick Campbell* gave a warm teſtimony to the truth of the aſſertion, that the ſole object of the Act paſſed in 1765, relative to the Iſle of Man, was for the prevention of ſmuggling.

Witneſſes were now called to the bar, as Mr Hammerſly, who had been Soliciton for the late Duke of Athol in the buſineſs of the ſale of the Iſle of Man. This man ſpoke feelingly on the ſubject, and with great regard for the late Duke of Athol, who had done him the honour to place great confidence in him. He ſaid, that the Duke was forced to agree to the bargain. But the various queſtions that were put to this, and the other witneſſes, by Mr Dempſter, Sir Richard Sutton, the Lord Advocate for Scotland, Sir Edward Aſhley, the Attorney General, &c. it is not within either our time or limits to reherſe. The general import of thoſe queſtions, and the anſwers that were made to them, will appear from the ſpeeches that were made after the examination of the witneſſes was over—only it may be proper to take notice, that Mr Dempſter finding Sir Fletcher Norton, in a very good humour for anſwering his queſtions according to his wiſh, put them to him with great politeneſs, but alſo in great abundance; and being apprehenſive, that Sir Fletcher ſhould leave the Houſe before the evidence ſhould be concluded, he urged him to give his opinion concerning the merits of the cauſe in that ſtage of the buſineſs, which Sir Fletcher declined, declaring that it would be altogether informal, and that however painful it might be, he would rather ſtay to the laſt. This he did, and his evidence, arguments, and authority, had much weight in determining the Houſe to adopt a reſolution entirely favourable to the family of Athol.

The witneſs being removed,

Lord *North* aſſured the Houſe, that if any notions were entertained that in the bringing forward the bill before the committee, there was any miniſterial or courtly influence exerted, they were entirely groundleſs. He profeſſed a very high regard to the memory of the late Duke of Athol, who was his old acquaintance and intimate friend. He too, as well as the Hon. Gentleman near him had been in Parliament in 1765; a circumſtance which, in that Hon. Gentleman's opinion, was a ſign of old age; but which he, for his part, was unwilling to conſider in that light, and would rather have it underſtood that he had been born in the Treaſury, than that he had been appointed a Commiſſioner at the years of diſcretion. That the Duke of Athol parted with ſo ancient, ſo honourable, ſo noble, and royal a poſſeſſion, did not ſurprize him. Had he been maſter of ſuch an inheritance, he himſelf would not have given it up without regret.

But while the Iſle of Man muſt be allowed to have been a great and a growing eſtate, it ſhould alſo be conſidered that its proſperity depended on an illicit trade which was detrimental to this country; and that this country had a right to put a ſtop to it. The Iſle of Man, from its relative ſituation to Scotland, England, Ireland, and Wales, was moſt happily ſituated for being the *depot* of contraband and ſmuggled goods; and in 1765 it was a loſs to Great Britain of four hundred thouſand pounds a-year at leaſt.

With regard to the herring cuſtoms, they had been, at the time of the bargain for the Iſle of man, worth only about ninety pounds a-year, though now he underſtood they were worth an hundred and ſeventeen or twenty. But they were not among the reſervations in favour of the Duke; and Sir William de Grey, now Lord Walſingham, and all the lawyers of the crown, had uniformly maintained, that by *piſcaries* or *fiſheries*, were to be underſtood inland fiſheries. Nay, when a claim was made in 1774 by the Duke, to the ſalmon fiſheries in the Iſle of Man, there was no mention made of this claim to the herring cuſtoms; ſo that after acquieſcing in the act of 1765 for 15 years, a new claim is raiſed that had eſcaped the family of Athol, even when it was looking about, as it ſhould ſeem, for matter on which to found new claims.

The ſum, Lord North ſaid, in queſtion, was not inconſiderable, and it had been appropriated to the ſupport and repairs of the harbours in the Iſle of Man. It was ſuperfluous to talk of the munificence and generoſity of Parliament, or of the generous policy of reſtoring to the ancient proprietors certain forfeited eſtates in Scotland; a meaſure which, at the ſame time, he entirely approved. The Duke of Athol did not ſupplicate their compaſſion, but demanded a debt from their juſtice. Indeed, an hundred pounds a-year would be an object much below the Duke to aſk as a favour, or as a compenſation for a hard bargain. If it was a bad bargain to the Duke without that hundred pounds now contended for, it would be a bad bargain with it.

But after what I have ſaid, continued his Lordſhip, let it not be ſuppoſed that I am an enemy to the noble family of Athol. Could I have ſhewn my favour on this occaſion, conſiſtently with the duty I owe to the public, I would have been happy to have ſhewn my regard to the memory of my friend, by doing a kindneſs to his ſon.

The *Lord Advocate of Scotland* ſaid, that though an hundred pounds a-year was but a ſmall pittance, yet it was a ſpecies of property or income that would naturally be held dear by the family of Athol, as it aroſe from the Iſle of Man, with which it tended more and more to connect them.

He did not conſider the Houſe as ſitting in the character of judges or interpreters of law, but as legiſlators, conſidering on the broad baſis of equity, what ſhould have been done, and indeed what was expected to have been done in certain circumſtances. It was the ſovereignty, and not any of the manerial rights over the Iſle of Mann, that was the object of Government. But, who ever heard of a cuſtom on herrings being an exerciſe of ſovereignty? It was a manerial right, as he proved from a thouſand inſtances in that part of the kingdom with which he was beſt acquainted, Scotland.

He then preſſed his opponents with the following dilemma: Either the Duke of Athol was in the practice of drawing cuſtom on fiſhing boats at ſea, or he was not. If he was, then Government had no right to touch any part of his revenues, for theſe were all preſerved to him by the contract with government, inviolate. But, if it ſhall be ſaid that he was not, then I ſhould be glad to know what right Government had to lay on a tribute of ten ſhillings per boat, ſince he inherited only the former rights of the Duke of Athol?

The *Lord Advocate* took notice that the Iſle of Man had been confeſſedly wreſted from the noble family of Athol by force. It was nonſenſe to talk of ſeventy thouſand pounds being a compenſation for ſuch a territory as the Iſle of Man, for a ſceptre, for a crown. Had he been in poſſeſſion of ſuch an inheritance, it would not have been ſeventy times ſeventy thouſand pounds that would have tempted him to part with it.—The Houſe indeed might do any thing, but he conceived it to be good Parliamentary language, to affirm that they cannot do that which they cannot do juſtly.

The late Duke of Athol had been deeply affected, by the reſolution to tear his ſovereignty from him, and his property. His ſpirits had never been entire ſince that period. The noble Ducheſs, on ſigning the contract with government relative to the Iſle of Man, had burſted into a flood of tears. The Duke, chagrined and fatigued in London, had haſtily retired in the ſummer 1765, to Scotland, and if he did not return to London the winter after, to vindicate his own rights, it was through a tenderneſs for the Ducheſs, for he was unwilling to revive her feelings on ſo diſagreeable a ſubject. Let us make up in ſome ſmall meaſure to the ſon the ſeverities you have inflicted, the pangs you have excited in the parents.

The *Attorney General* inſiſted that no lawyer would contend, that the Duke's claim was founded in law. The herring cuſtom was not reſerved to the Duke in the contract with Government. He joked the Lord Advocate on his indifference to ſeven millions ſterling, and ſuppoſed him to be in a very different ſtate from a king he had either read or heard of, who ſaid he was more in want of money than of royalty, and that he would exchange the latter for the former. He took notice, that the diſtinction between the tributes on home and foreign veſſels favoured more of ſovereign than of Manerial juriſdiction.

Sir *Fletcher Norton* hoped he would be excuſed if he ſhould give the hiſtory of the ſale of the Iſle of Man, and of the ſhare he had in that buſineſs, having then been Attorney General. Sir Robert Walpole, Mr Pelham, the Duke of Newcaſtle, had all of them had an eye to the ſovereignty of the Iſle of Man; but the family being loth to part with it, they had not proſecuted their wiſhes and views into any effective conſequences; but Mr Grenville was a great and upright miniſter, an enthuſiaſt concerning the revenue of the public, of which he was as careful as of his own private eſtate, and not eaſily to be diverted from any of his purſuits.

He wrote to the late Duke of Athol, acquainting him, that the want of the Iſle of Man was a prodigious loſs to Government, and that they wiſhed to know whether his Grace might be induced to ſell it. The Duke wrote for anſwer, that he had but lately come to the poſſeſſion of his fortune, and that he did not know its value. This was eaſily underſtood by Mr Grenville, who repreſented to the Duke the neceſſity of Government acquiring the ſovereignty of the Iſle of Man by any means.

The Duke then made his propoſals with great reluctance, as he had alſo heard; nay he was freely informed, that he would have given ſeventy thouſand pounds to Government in order to have been reinſtated in the ſituation in which he ſtood before any bargain was made about the Iſle of Man. Had he (Sir Fletcher Norton) been aware of all the uneaſineſs that had enſued from the manner in which he had drawn up the inſtrument of conveyance of the ſovereignty of the Iſle of Man, he would by no means have done it.

The manner of conveyance was this; the Duke made over his whole rights of every kind in the Iſle of Man to the Crown, reſerving certain rights to himſelf by way of exceptions. And the reaſon of this method was, that the object of the act for annexing the ſovereignty of the Iſle of Man to the Crown, being the prevention of ſmuggling, and he not being acquainted with the ſovereignty of the Iſle of Man, he had thought this mode of conveyance the moſt eligible, becauſe the Crown having the whole rights veſted formerly in the ſovereign of the Iſle of Man, he was ſure of his aim, as he could judge whether any of the reſervations made by the Duke were incompatible with that object.

But Sir Fletcher was clearly of opinion, that it was not the intention of the act to touch one farthing of the Duke's revenue, ariſing from the iſland, and, therefore, he would give his vote for paſſing the bill.

After Sir Fletcher Norton, the Solicitor General and Mr Ord ſpoke againſt the bill, and Lord Frederick Campbell for it. But the late hour (for this debate was protracted till near ten o'clock), will not permit us to be more copious.

Strangers were ordered to withdraw, and the Houſe was about to divide, when, as it was evident that the general bent of the Houſe lay towards the Duke of Athol, they came to an agreement, ſo that the bill in queſtion paſſed through the Committee without any farther oppoſition.

LEITH SHIPPING.

ARRIVED,

May 23. Betty, Peatie, from Leven, with grain.
Betſey and Peggy, Robertſon, from Berwick, ditto.
Katty Ann, Sangſter, from Fraſerſburgh, ditto.
Adamſon, Lyell, from Perth, with goods.
And ſix veſſels with coals.

ONE THOUSAND POUNDS WANTED.

WANTED to BORROW, upon good heritable ſecurity, at the term of Lammas next, or ſooner, The SUM OF ONE THOUSAND POUNDS STERLING.

Apply to Henry Johnſton Wylie, at Mr William Campbell's, writer to the ſignet, St Andrew's Square, Edinburgh.

DEBTS.

WHEREAS intimation was, formerly given to thoſe who are INDEBTED to the late Mr WILLIAM AYTOUN, writer to the ſignet, to pay up the ſums due by them, to Mr Samuel Mitchelſon, junior, writer to the ſignet, who is properly authoriſed to diſcharge the ſame: but as very few of them have complied therewith, NOTICE is hereby given to the debtors of Mr Aytoun to pay up the ſeveral ſums due by them, betwixt and the 26th of May inſt. to Mr Mitchelſon, as he has directions from the executrix and tutor, to raiſe proceſſes againſt all thoſe who ſhall fail to comply with this ſecond intimation.

Not to be repeated.

SALE OF LANDS IN MID-LOTHIAN AND PEEBLES-SHIRE.

TO be SOLD, by public voluntary roup, within the Exchange Coffee-houſe, Edinburgh, on Wedneſday the 18th July next, between the hours of four and ſix afternoon,

The Lands and Eſtates of NEWHALL and CARLOPS, with the coal and lime thereon, lying contiguous within the pariſhes of Pennycuick and Linton, along the ſide of the turnpike-road leading from Edinburgh to Linton, and twelve miles from Edinburgh. The free rent of the lands of Newhall is about 260 l. Sterling, excluſive of the coal and lime. On Newhall there is a good manſion-houſe, and water brought into it with lead pipes, and a ciſtern at the houſe; alſo, a new built court of offices. It is pleaſantly ſituated on a fine trouting river, and the plantations are in a thriving condition. The free rent of the lands of Carlops, excluſive of the coal and lime on that eſtate, is about 256 l. Sterling. The coal and lime on both eſtates are now out or leaſe, but, by the laſt tack, were ſet at 52 l. 14 s. Sterling. Theſe eſtates lie contiguous; the farm-houſes on both are newly built and in good condition. The lands of Newhall hold of the Crown, and afford a free-hold qualification in the county of Mid-Lothian.—The lands of Carlops hold of a ſubject ſuperior for payment of a ſmall feu-duty.

The above eſtates of Newhall and Carlops are to be ſet up either together or ſeparately, as purchaſers incline.

The title-deeds, tacks of the farms, and plan and meaſurement of the lands of Newhall, and articles of ſale, may be ſeen in the hands of James Keay writer in Edinburgh; to whom, or to Mr David Ruſſell accomptant in Edinburgh, any perſon inclining to purchaſe by private bargain may apply, before the day of roup; and William Ramage at Ninemilehurn will ſhow the grounds.

FOR SALE at Lawſon's Coffeehouſe, Leith, on Friday the firſt of June next, betwixt the hours of twelve and one afternoon,

THE TAY PRIVATEER of Perth,

burden about 85 tons, Ipſwich built, mounting 8 carriage guns three pounders, and 6 ſwivels, has twenty ſtand of ſmall arms, piſtols, cutlaſſes, pikes, &c. with ſtore ſufficient for a three months cruize. She has a good platform fore and aft, a large Cockhouſe, and by that means is calculated for tranſporting priſoners, without any further alterations being neceſſary. Her ſails, rigging, cables, &c. are in the beſt order, having been moſtly all renewed in February laſt, when ſhe ſailed on a cruize.

Complete Inventaries to be ſeen at Lawſon's Coffeehouſe, Leith, and on board of the veſſel; at Mr William Maiden's, ſhipmaſter, Dundee; and at Mr James Ramſay's, merchant, Perth. Any inclining a private bargain, may apply to the Captain at Lawſon's Coffeehouſe.

N. B. The Tay is preſently lying at Dundee, and will be in the harbour of Leith in a day or two.

To the Printer of the Caledonian Mercury.

SIR,

AT a time when improvements of every kind are going on with such rapidity, it must afford matter of real concern to every sensible person, to observe, that the manners of the people do by no means keep pace with the taste and elegance exhibited in our public and private buildings.

I was led into this reflection from a scene which I had the mortification to witness this morning. All your readers, in town at least, will have heard, if not seen, that the High Cl has undergone a total alteration, and been greatly beautified. Curiosity, upon that account, has led many to go and see it. Among a few others, I happened to be there this morning. We were soon informed, in a stile of *hauteur*, that it was very improper for us to be there, as we hindered the people at work, who, by the bye, did not exceed half a dozen. To avoid giving any offence, however, we immediately retired; but, upon approaching towards the door, our attention was called back by a conversation which seemed to be carried on, by one of the parties, at least, in a most vociferous manner. We immediately returned. You may easily imagine our surprise, Mr Printer, when we discovered, in the pulpit, a Peer of the realm, whose least honour it is to be so. His head and his heart have long procured him the respect, the love, and the admiration, not only of this, but of neighbouring nations. This nobleman, Mr Printer, was addressed by the person who had formerly accosted the company to which I belonged, in a manner for which no apology can be offered. He told this venerable Peer, that "if he did not immediately leave the church, he would *turn him out.*" The Nobleman, with that modesty for which he is conspicuous, and, at the same time, with that dignity and firmness becoming his rank, replied, "that he was not doing any harm; that he meant to do none; but that he would not retire till he had satisfied that curiosity which brought him there."

I own, Mr Printer, this scene shocked me a good deal. Had the person alluded to been addressing a blackguard boy, he could not have done it in a stile or manner more offensive. I thought this a proper subject for animadversion. I could wish to see my countrymen improve in politeness, as they do in the fine arts. Your paper, Sir, is universally read. It is for that reason you are troubled with these loose hints. If you are kind enough to publish them, they may perhaps have a good effect. They should teach every one to behave, if not with politeness, at least with common decency and good manners, especially when addressing strangers, lest they should fall into similar mistakes. I am, Sir, your's, &c.

Edin. May 23. A CONSTANT READER.

DESERTED from PERTH the 18th of May 1782,

JOHN SMITH, Soldier in his Majesty's 77th

Regiment, or Athol Highlanders; born in the town of Dagerty, in county of Northumberland; aged nineteen years, 5 feet 7½ inches high, brown complexion, streight dark brown hair, ruddy faced, plain-footed, with his right hand thumb thicker and shorter than the other.

Any person that apprehends the said deserter, and lodges him in any of his Majesty's prisons or guard-houses, shall receive One Guinea Reward, besides what is given by act of Parliament for apprehending deserters, upon applying to any of the officers of said regiment.

SHERRY WINE.

JUST arrived, a Parcel of OLD SHERRY WINE, in butts and half butts.——Merchants, on applying to JOHN WALKER and Company, Edinburgh, will be supplied on reasonable terms.—The wine will be shown at their cellars, near the church in Leith.

AN ENSIGNCY TO BE SOLD.

AN ENSIGNCY in the 57th Regiment of Foot, presently lying in America.—For further particulars, apply to John Dundas clerk to the signet.

ALEX. LIVINGSTON, Tea and Spirit Dealer,

Opposite Chapel of Ease, Crosscauseway,

RETURNS his best thanks to the public in general, and his friends in particular, for the many favours conferred upon him, and flatters himself, that he has it in his power to merit the continuance of their approbation, &c.—begs leave to inform them, that he has got to hand a very fine assortment of TEAS and SPIRITS, superior to any yet offered the Public, which he is selling off, upon very moderate terms. Teas from Two Shillings and Ten Pence to Twenty Shillings per lib. all ENGLISH WEIGHT, as he has never practised that method of mixing with Sloe or Bountree leaves, to enable him to sell *Dutch weight.*

The Public may depend upon his Teas being genuine.

Sugars to Tea Customers at prime cost. FOR READY MONEY ONLY.

N. B. He, in particular, recommends his Teas at 5 s. 6 d. and 6 s.

TO LET,

FURNISHED LODGINGS, consisting of a dining-room, parlour, three bed-rooms, closets, kitchen, &c. at Rosemount, a small villa, pleasantly situated six miles east of Edinburgh, and near the town of Prestonpans, which has the advantage of a stage-coach going to Edinburgh every day. Invalids, or such persons whose health requires a well-aired wholesome situation, may be lodged to great advantage, the soil being very dry, and the air esteemed remarkably good, with the conveniency of sea-bathing, if required. Those also, whose friends wish to board in the country, and live in retirement, free from noise, at a distance from any great town, might here find very suitable accommodation, and in all respects would be carefully attended to. Any whom the above lodgings may suit, will be informed of further particulars at the house, Rosemount.

Not to be repeated.

To all DROVERS, or DEALERS in CATTLE.

THERE is to be held annually, at Fort Augustus, three TRYSTS or MARKETS for all kinds of CATTLE, on the following days, viz. The first Tryst to be held on the 8th day of June next, being the second Friday after the May Tryst at Portree, in the Isle of Sky, which always holds on the last Wednesday of May; the second, on the 28th day of August; and the third, on the 28th day of September; and to be continued on the same days yearly, in all time coming.

——If any of the days appointed should happen to fall on Saturday or Sunday, the Monday following is to be held as the market-day.

There is a good inn at Fort Augustus, a dry moir, well calculated for a market-place, contiguous to the village, and plenty of grass to be had in the neighbourhood, on reasonable terms; and there can be no doubt of a considerable show of Cattle, as the place is in the centre of a great tract of breeding-country both for black cattle and of sheep, and on the high road by which the Sky, Kintail, Glenelg, and other Cattle pass to the southern markets.

These markets commenced only on the above days in August and September last, when there was a very great show of cattle.

TO COVER, at Ardrie House, near Anstruther, at One Guinea the Mare, and Half a Crown to the Servant,

SULTAN.

He is one of the highest bred horses in this country, has won several plates and matches: He is seven years old, perfectly sound, and free from blemish, and able to carry any weight a-hunting.

N. B. The money to be paid at the stable door.

BERWICKSHIRE.

BY appointment of the Committee, there is to be held at Dunse, upon Wednesday the 6th day of June next, in the house of George Purves vintner, a General Meeting of the SUBSCRIBERS for building two Bridges over the Water of Whittader, at Chirnside and Gainslaw. It is earnestly requested all the Subscribers will attend at ten o'clock before noon, as matters of importance are to be laid before them; and unless the meeting is numerous, there is a probability that this work, which is of so much importance to the public, will be delayed another year.

ROUP OF FURNITURE.

TO be SOLD by public roup on Thursday the 24th May, in the 2d land east of the Chapel of Ease, and 2d door of the stair,

ALL SORTS of HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, consisting of mounted beds, feather beds, blankets, and carpets, chimney and sconce glasses, grates, with dining-room and drawing-room furniture of the best kind, an eight day clock, jack, and kitchen furniture, and a lead cistern, &c. &c. The roup to begin at ten o'clock forenoon, and to continue till all be sold off.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

AS the Funds of WILLIAM PERRY, late Master of an Academy, Edinburgh, are soon to be divided, such Creditors as have neglected to produce their grounds of debt, with an oath on the verity, are required to do so immediately, in the hands of Francis Strachan writer to the signet, otherways they will get no share of said William Perry's funds ——Not to be repeated.

KELP TO BE SOLD.

FOUR HUNDRED TONS of exceeding good KELP, of the manufacture of this season, in the islands of South Uist and Benbecula, which is well known by all dealers in this commodity to be of the best quality.

Offers and proposals to be sent to William M'Donald writer to the signet, Edinburgh, or to Colin M'Donald, Esq; of Boisdale, or Mr Patrick Nicholson factor of Benbecula.

TO BE SOLD,

ALL and Whole the Lands of EASTER WALKINGSHAW,

with the Houses and Pertinents, lying within the parish and shire of Renfrew, as the same are possessed by James Storie. These lands are now out of lease, have not been raised for 22 years past, and hold of a subject superior for payment of a small feu-duty. They lie in the neighbourhood of the thriving town of Paisley, are well adapted for situations for houses for carrying on manufactories; and being adjacent to the water of Grief, a bleachfield may be erected on the lands to great advantage.

For farther particulars, enquiry may be made at Samuel Mitchelson junior, writer to the signet, who has powers to conclude the sale.

FARM TO LET.

TO be LET for nineteen years, or such other term of years as shall be agreed on,

The Lands of COLLEGE, MILTON, and ARRATSHOLE, in the parish of Easter Kilbride, in the shire of Lanark, consisting of about 300 Scots acres, great part of which are inclosed, and subdivided with hedges and ditches, one mile distant from the village of Kilbride, four or five miles from Hamilton, and six from Glasgow.

There are four steadings of houses on these lands, which may be divided into four convenient farms; and will be set separately, if good tenants offer.

The soil is exceedingly good and improveable, and has an inexhaustable limestone rock, which will be set either along with the lands or separately, as parties can agree.

The entry to be for the crop 1782: And the incoming tenant may, if he chuses, enter to the standing crop 1781, upon paying for it an appraised value.

Offers may be given in to Mr Morthland, factor for Glasgow College, or Thomas Grahame writer in Glasgow.

FARMS TO LET.

To be LET in lease, for such a number of years as shall be agreed on, and entered to at Whitsunday 1782,

THE Estate of DARNCHESTER, consisting of the farms of Darnchester, Dovecoatmains, and Hawkslaw, lying in the parish of Coldstream and county of Berwick.

These farms consist of 1000 acres, or thereby, lie contiguous, are of a rich soil, in a good climate, without any waste ground, have near and ready access to lime and coal, by the bridge over Tweed at Coldstream, are within a short distance of the great turnpike-road from Edinburgh by Greenlaw to London; and are only two or three miles from the market towns of Dunse, Coldstream, and Kelso. The whole estate is capable of the highest improvements, adapted for carrying wheat and all other grains.

The tenant will receive upwards of 400 acres in grass, whereof 60 of the best soil, well laid down, and may have the straw of 400 acres from the removing tenants for a small consideration.

Application may be made to John Cockburn writer in Dunse, as to further particulars concerning the estate, and who will give directions for shewing the lands.

Proposals for taking the whole, or part of the estate, may be made to James Rochead, Esq; of Inverleith, the proprietor, or to John Anderson writer to the signet: And it may be depended on that such as are not accepted of shall be kept secret.

FOR SALE by the Candle, at Lawson's Coffeehouse in Leith, on Monday the 11th day of June, betwixt the hours of twelve and one mid-day,

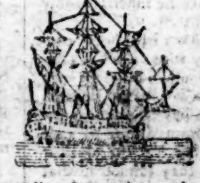
The Frigate LE CALONNE,

about 400 tons, upon an easy draught of water, built in France for a privateer, only two years old, and lately commanded by Luke Ryan; is an exceeding fast sailer, mounting 22 nine and 6 four pounder guns, and 6 twelve pounder Carronades; taken by his Majesty's ships Berwick and Belle Poule. Is extremely well found in naval and ordnance stores; with provisions on board for 200 men for three months, and may be sent to sea in a few hours, without almost any expence.—There is no doubt of her being in all respects one of the most complete privateers which has been fitted out during this war.

She now lies at anchor in Leith Road, where she is to be delivered.

Inventories to be had on board, of Messrs Bell and Rannie merchants, and James Hamilton broker at Leith.

FOR SALE by the Candle, at Lawson's Coffeehouse, on Monday 25th June 1781, at twelve o'clock,



The French FRIGATE OF WAR ROHAN SOUBISE,

now in Leith Road, built in 1780, mounting 22 nine pounder guns, burden 400 tons more or less, upon an easy draught of water, extremely well found in all necessary stores, and may be sent to sea at a very small expence; a most remarkable fast sailer, taken by his Majesty's ship Proselyte and Repulse cutter, after a chace of thirteen hours.

Inventaries to be had on board, and of Messrs Bell and Rannie merchants, and James Hamilton broker, Leith.

KINGHORN & WOODHAVEN DILIGENCE, BY CUPAR IN FIFE.

TO accommodate Passengers from EDINBURGH to DUNDEE, and from DUNDEE to EDINBURGH, *by Cupar in Fife*, two NEW DILIGENCES set out on Monday the 21st May 1781, and every day thereafter, Sundays excepted; one from Daniel Munro's, Kinghorn, and the other from William Sym's, Woodhaven, Dundee West Water Side, one hour after high water; change horses at David Methven's, vintner, Cupar, and William Wright's New Inn.—These diligences hold each three passengers—Each seat Six Shillings and Sixpence: Uptake passengers 4 d. per mile.—Every passenger allowed 14 lib. luggage, all above to pay 1 d. per lib.

In order to render these Diligences as convenient and expeditious as possible, the proprietors oblige themselves to run the one from Kinghorn, and the other from Woodhaven, in seven hours; leaving it in the choice of passengers to stay an hour at David Methven's, Cupar, or William Wright's New Inn.— When the tides fall very late or early, these Diligences are so regulated as never to set out before six o'clock in the morning, or later than seven o'clock in the evening.—Tickets given out by Daniel Munro vintner in Kinghorn, William Gordon vintner in Dundee, and William Sym vintner, Woodhaven.—If passengers miss the diligence, they can be accommodated with Post Chaises at Kinghorn by Daniel Munro, and at Woodhaven by William Sym.

PRICE REDUCED.

SALE OF AN ESTATE IN ARGYLE-SHIRE, INCLUDING THE Celebrated Island of Staffa.

TO be SOLD by public roup within the Exchange Coffeehouse, Edinburgh, on Thursday the 12th day of July next, between the hours of five and six afternoon,

The LANDS and ESTATE of ULVA and ORMAIG, comprehending, among others, the ISLAND of STAFFA, and a considerable tract of country along the sea-coast, being very extensive and improveable, having all the materials for that purpose on the estate, and water carriage.

This estate abounds with fish of all kinds on its coasts; and a considerable quantity of Kelp is annually manufactured on its shores. The muirs are well stored with game; and the upset price is now reduced to 9000 l. sterling, which makes it less than nineteen years purchase of the present free rent of this very valuable estate.

The articles of sale and progress of writs are to be seen in the hands of William Macdonald writer to the signet, Edinburgh; and copies of the rental, with John Macneil writer in Inverary; to either of whom application may be made for further particulars, or a private bargain previous to the day of sale.

SALE OF LANDS IN THE COUNTY OF FIFE.

TO be SOLD, by voluntary roup, within the house of David Methven, vintner in Cupar, on Thursday the 7th of June 1781, at twelve o'clock mid-day.

The Lands and Estate of RUMGALLY, in

the parish of Kemback, pleasantly situated on the south side of the water of Edin, about a mile and a half from Cupar, and four miles and a half from St Andrews.

The Lands consist of 272 acres good arable ground, a considerable part of which is inclosed, and 62 one-half acres muir not rentalled by tenants, which last may be easily improved, as there is plenty of coal and limestone in the neighbourhood.

There is an excellent mansion-house on this estate, consisting of eight rooms, with office-houses, and dove-coat, all in good repair, and the garden is well stored with fruit trees.

The Lands hold of a subject superior for payment of 6 s. 8 d. of feu-duty, and the free yearly rent is 131 l. 6 s. Sterling. If a purchaser inclines, a considerable part of the price may be left in his hands to answer an annuity. The teinds were valued in the year 1760.

The rental and articles of roup are lodged with John Stevenson writer in Cupar. Copies of the rental may be also got from Patrick Anderson clerk to the signet, Edinburgh.

SALE OF LANDS IN ARGYLESHIRE.

TO be SOLD, by public voluntary roup, within the Exchange Coffee-house in Edinburgh, upon Thursday the 26th day of July next, between the hours of five and six afternoon,

ALL and WHOLE the Two Merk Land of Old Extent of ARICHONAN, the Two Merk Land of Old Extent of LECKNABANE, the One Merk Land of ERVARIE, the One Merk Land of ARILUIG, and One Merk Land of ARDNOA, extending in whole to a Seven Merk Land of Old Extent; together with the Changehouse of BELANOCH, Acre and House of CARNGOWN, and Mill of GLENGHALVAN; all lying in the parish of North Knapdale, and sheriffdom of Argyle.

This estate is of considerable extent, and very improveable; and having been of late mostly inclosed with stone dikes, at a very considerable expence, is fit either for tillage or pasture. The lands lie near to the convenient harbour of Lochcrinnan, upon the west coast of Scotland, and not far from Lochgilphead. They have been under lease to one tenant for fourteen years past; but, as the present tack expires at Whitsunday 1781, and as the principal tacksman, by subsetting the greatest part of the lands, has, during that period, annually received a sum exceeding considerably the rent payable by him to the heritor, a very great rise of rent may immediately, and with certainty be expected.

The above lands hold of a subject superior, and pay a very moderate feu and teind-duty.

The progress of writs, which is clear, the rental of the estate, and the articles of roup are to be seen in the hands of James Hay, clerk to the signet.

For further particulars, persons intending to purchase may apply to Mr Malcom Macneil, Ardtally in Isla, or to the said James Hay; either of whom is authorised to conclude a private bargain, before the roup.

N. B. The greatest part of the price will be allowed to remain in the purchaser's hands, upon proper security.

BY ADJOURNMENT.

SALE OF LANDS IN FIFE.

TO be SOLD by public roup and sale, within John's Coffeehouse, Edinburgh, upon Thursday the 26th of July 1781, between the hours of five and six afternoon,

The Lands and Estate of LATHOCKER,

comprehending the Mill and Mill lands of Lathocker, the Lands of Easter Morton, Hiscdean, and Constable-Crook, with the Superiority of the Lands of Wester Morton, all lying contiguous, in the parish of Cameron, regality of St Andrews, and shire of Fife. The estate consists of about 850 acres, mostly arable, and the greatest part of it is let to sufficient tenants; so that the yearly rent of the whole, after putting a moderate value upon the Mains out of lease, and converting the victual, kains and carriages, at the usual rates, is about 490 l. Sterling, free of all deductions, and without including the rent of a lime-kiln set for this year, or the produce of the coal.

The whole lands are capable of great improvement, as there are lime and coal upon them. The coal has been wrought for more than a year past, and at present has a very favourable appearance. As the lands lie between three and four miles from St Andrews and Cupar, it is believed, that, from the present appearance of the coal, it will turn out to very great advantage.

The lands will be exposed at the upset price of 7000 l. sterling.

The whole estate holds of the Crown, as coming in place of the Bishop of St Andrews; and is rated in the cess-books of the county at 417 l. 6 s. 8 d. Scots.

The title-deeds, conditions of sale, rental, and plan of the estate, are to be seen in the hands of Francis Anderson writer to the signet; to whom, or to Mr John Hay accomptant in Edinburgh, any person wanting to be informed of further particulars may apply. Copies of the rental and conditions of sale are also to be seen in the hands of John Stevenson writer in Cupar.

EDINBURGH: Printed for and by JOHN and THOMAS ROBERTSON, and sold at their Printing-house in the PARLIAMENT-CLOSE, where ADVERTISEMENTS and SUBSCRIPTIONS are taken in. This Paper is regularly published every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday.——The price as follows: *v. s.* 26 *s.* 6 *d. per annum*, when sent by post; 4 *s.* 6 *d.* when sent to any house in this city or suburbs; 37 *s.* 6 *d.* when called for at the Printing-house; and a single paper 3 *d.*